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Headteacher: Mr M Wignall

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Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are well and would like to thank you for the constructive feedback and messages of support you have sent to us. I am writing to update you on our approach to home learning provision.

Our approach to home learning is to include a balance of live and pre-recorded lessons. We recognise that live lessons enable greater interactivity between students and teachers and that the initial roll out of live lessons has been a positive experience for students and staff. Therefore, the continuing focus of our professional training is to continue to increase the number of live lessons delivered over the coming weeks.

We believe that a mix of 'live' and pre-recorded lessons will provide the most effective remote learning offer for our students. Research from [EEF](#) has demonstrated that there is no evidence to suggest that live lessons are more effective in terms of progress than pre-recorded lessons. [Ofsted](#) guidance is also clear that live lessons are not necessarily the 'gold standard' and advocate a 'mixed economy' of live and pre-recorded lessons.

It is important to note that a significant amount of time and effort is put into crafting pre-recorded lessons. These lessons are 'ambitious', they provide clear teacher explanations and designed to enable progress through students' 'normal curriculum.' Lesson planning is guided by [EEF](#) research to ensure that remote learning is planned and delivered in the most effective manner.

A balanced, mixed economy of pre-recorded and live lessons is also important for the wellbeing of staff and students in terms of time spent on a computer or similar device. We want to offer an online curriculum that provides a rich diet of learning opportunities that include activities that are not necessarily screen based. Our approach is also sensitive to differences in the accessibility of ICT across our community.

### Use of Teams

We continue to evolve the use of Microsoft Teams so that we can provide a simpler route for students and parents/carers to access their learning each day, submit their work and receive feedback. We are working hard to resolve this and will keep you updated.

### Expectations about Live Lessons

It is our expectation that students should attend all live lessons on their timetable. However, we do understand there may occasionally be individual circumstances, which prevent a student attending a lesson.

Teachers will inform you via an EduLink behaviour alert if your child does not attend their live lesson.

### Behaviour in Live Lessons

Behaviour in Live Lessons has been excellent so far and students have been polite and respectful to their teachers. We have established a set of clear expectations – students must:

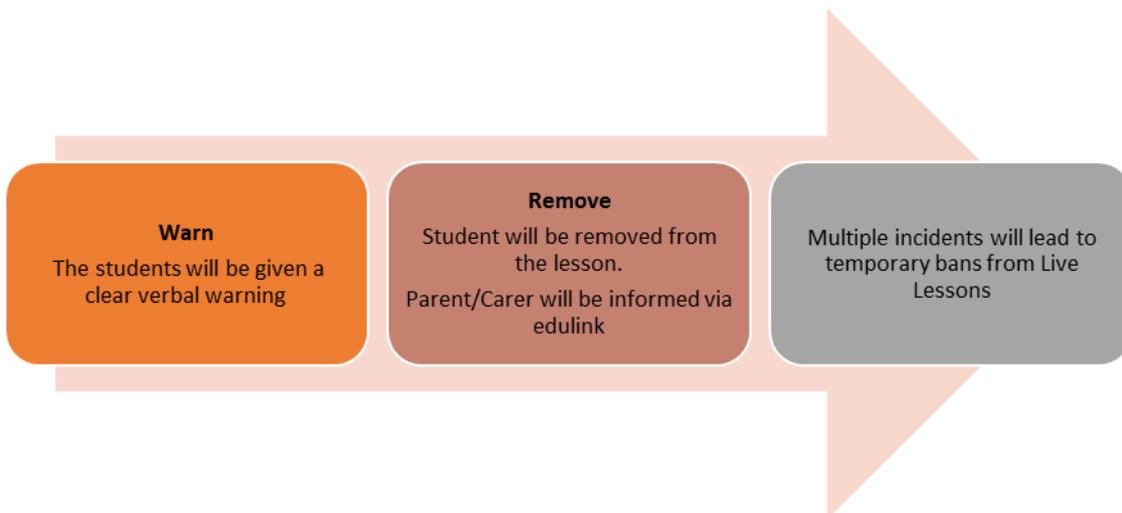
- Have their cameras off and their audio muted (teachers may ask students a question and they can then temporarily unmute themselves).
- Not share live lessons outside of the school community.
- Not make derogatory verbal or written comments about other participants in the lesson. This could be perceived as online bullying and is not acceptable.



- Not share their password with any other student or organisation. Parents/Carers are permitted.
- Not record or take photos of participants or teachers during live lessons, nor share lessons publicly.
- Remain attentive and respectful during sessions and ensure they are free from distractions. Students should not be using personal social media in lesson time.
- During the Live learning not deliberately browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If a student accidentally comes across any such material, they should report it immediately to their teacher or parent/carer.

### Sanctions for Behaviour during Live Lessons

It is very important that live lessons enable all students to learn without disruption. We have a clear process for dealing with inappropriate behaviour in live lessons which mirrors our normal behaviour protocols – see below



Parents/Carers will be informed via **EduLink** if their child has been removed from a live lesson. Pastoral teams will contact parents/carers if there are multiple incidents.

Many thanks for your continued support while we continue to evolve our approach to remote learning. If you have any queries, please contact [head@downlands.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@downlands.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr S Adams  
Assistant Headteacher